



The Wild Free-Roaming Horses and Burros Act of 1971 (As Amended) (Public Law 92-195)

Horses and Burros Act (As Amended)

- Protect and manage
- Applies to public lands administered by BLM & USFS
- Manage where found in 1971 (No relocation to where they didn't exist in 1971)



Horses and Burros Act (As Amended)

- Maintain thriving natural ecological balance in combination with other uses
- Management at minimum feasible level
- Consult with state wildlife agencies to protect natural ecological balance of all wildlife species
- Conduct research



Horses and Burros Act (As Amended)

- Maintain a current inventory (1978)
- Determine if AMLs are to be achieved by removal or destruction of excess animals or other means such as sterilization or natural controls (1978)
- Immediately remove excess animals to AML (1978)
- Authorized to use helicopters for capture and motor vehicles for transport (1976)



Horses and Burros Act (As Amended)

- Excess animals available for adoption (1978)
- Destroy those for which no adoption demand exists (1978)
- Sell w/o limitation if offered unsuccessfully for adoption x 3 and those > 10 years (2004)
- Rider in **Appropriations Acts**

Horses and Burros Act (As Amended)

- May designate specific ranges for protection
- Ranges are areas devoted principally not necessarily exclusively to wild horses and burros in keeping with multiple use concept
- Authority to enter into cooperative agreements with land owners



Wild, Feral, and Estray

| | |
|------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Wild Horses and Burros | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Unbranded, unclaimed horses and burros that use public lands as all or part of their habitat;• Animals removed from these lands by an authorized officer;• Animals born to a wild horse or burro in BLM facilities that have not lost wild status under Sec 3 of the Act (e.g. not been transferred into private care) <p>43 CFR 4700.0-5</p> |
| Feral | An animal living in the wild but descended from domesticated individuals |
| Estray | Any domestic animal found wandering at large or lost, particularly if the owner is unknown |